



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Adopted November 1, 2004
Ordinance 5099 & 5100



- Provide relief from urban development (air pollution, heat islands, noise, erosion crowding, flooding, etc.)
- Maintain a habitat for wildlife
- Provide physical access and visual connection within the City
- Define the form of the City
- Provide for educational opportunities
- Provide a diversity of natural resources
- Protect and encourage threatened and endangered species of plants and animals
- Provide public access to creeks, rivers, and lakes.

Policy P-54: Where feasible, encourage public access into public open space areas. Public use of open space should be provided at a level that is suited to protecting the natural resources of the area.

Policy P-55: Where feasible, encourage educational opportunities in public open space areas.

Policy P-56: Structures should be minimized within public open space areas.

Policy P-57: Develop inventories and management plans for open space and natural areas.


Policy P-58: Provide funds for native vegetation and other habitat enhancements to encourage appropriate wildlife on existing open space lands where consistent with the recreational use of the area.

Policy P-59: Acquire open space that has the following features:


- a. Can fill a gap or connect the existing open space network
- b. Is environmentally sensitive or unique
- c. Provides wildlife habitat
- d. Can protect natural resource areas
- e. Is archeologically significant
- f. Provides relief from urban development

Policy P-60: Increase public awareness of, and appreciation for, specific natural features through education and interpretive programs.

Policy P-61: Incorporate utility, storm drainage, and other public lands into the open space system through cooperative use agreements.



Objective P-F: Create a walkable community by developing and maintaining a comprehensive trails system that provides non-motorized access throughout the City, maximizes public access to parks, schools, and open space areas, connects to regional trail systems, and provides increased recreational opportunities for the public.



Policy P-62: The trail system should serve local and regional users and be linked to the regional trail system.

Policy P-63: Trails should provide for the needs of a diverse population of

users including groups such as adults, children, seniors, workers, the disabled and other people engaging in either passive and/or active pursuits including:


- a. pedestrians,
- b. recreation bicyclists,

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- c. joggers/runners,
- d. in-line skaters,
- e. bicycle commuters
- f. canoeists and kayakers, and
- g. hikers.

Policy P-64: The trail system should be recognized and maintained by the City as distinct from informal or private pathways.

Policy P-65: Informal or private pathways should form a secondary system with linkages to the public system. These trails should be developed and maintained under joint public/private partnership.



Policy P-66: Linkages should be provided with surrounding communities within major regional corridors such as the Cedar River, Green River, the Lake Washington Loop, and the Soos Creek Trail.

Policy P-67: Within the City, linkages should be provided among residential areas, employment areas, centers, and recreation areas.

Policy P-68: Integrate Renton's recreational trail needs into a comprehensive trail system serving both local and regional users.

Policy P-69: Plan and coordinate appropriate pedestrian and bicycle commuter routes along existing minor arterial and collector arterial corridors.

Policy P-70: Trails should be developed in tandem with motorized transportation systems, recognizing issues such as safety, user diversity, and experiential diversity.

Policy P-71: Provide foot/bicycle separation wherever possible; however, where conflict occurs, foot traffic should be given preference. (See Transportation Element.)

Policy P-72: Provide adequate separation between non-motorized and motorized traffic to ensure safety. (See Transportation Element.)

Policy P-73: Put major emphasis on establishing a "macro" system of trails while identifying critical missing links in the existing functional system.

Policy P-74: Address "micro" level trails and fill gaps in existing trail patterns where appropriate.

The adopted Long Range Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Plan shall be coordinated with and be an integral component of the City's on-going transportation planning activities.

Policy P-75: As appropriate, encourage the use of existing utility corridors for trail purposes and secure trail easements.

Policy P-76: Furnish trail systems with appropriate trailhead supporting improvements that include interpretive and directory signage, rest stops, drinking fountains, bicycle racks, landscaping, parking, loading areas, water, and other services.

Policy P-77: Where appropriate, locate trailheads at or in conjunction with park sites, schools or other community facilities to increase local area access to the trail system and to reduce duplication of supporting improvements (e.g. parking).

Policy P-78: Provide opportunities for the public to access, via Lake Washington, the “Lakes to Locks” regional water trail system.

Policy P-79: Design and develop trail improvements to a standard that is easy to maintain and easy to access by maintenance, security and other appropriate personnel, equipment and vehicles.

Policy P-80: Ensure development adjacent to trails is designed to minimize impacts to and enhance trails.

Policy P-81: Trail routes on private lands are not classified as official trails until the City has legal use authority.

Policy P-82: Trail alignments should take into account soil conditions, slope, surface drainage and other physical limitations that could increase construction and/or maintenance costs.

Policy P-83: Whenever possible, recreation trails should not be part of a street roadway.

Objective P-G: Provide opportunities for public participation in recreational services and programs that are creative, stimulating, educational, proactive, and healthy and reflect the needs and interests of the community.

Policy P-88: Provide recreational activities specific and appropriate for each age group.

Policy P-89: Provide outdoor space for community and civic events, public gatherings, programmed activities, and entertainment.

Policy P-90: Develop a balanced system of recreational opportunities that

Policy P-84: Trails should be looped and interconnected to provide a variety of trail lengths and destinations.

Policy P-85: The functions of railroad and utility rights-of-way should be assessed. Abandoned utility and/or railroad rights-of-ways should receive high priority for designation and acquisition of trail and/or corridors.

Policy P-86: Incorporate utility, storm drainage, and other public lands into the trail system through cooperative use agreements.

Policy P-87: Develop and maintain comprehensive trails systems, which provide non-motorized access throughout the City, maximize public access to open space areas, and provide increased recreational opportunities for the public. (See Transportation Element Objective T-K.)

is diverse, comprehensive, and enriching to a variety age groups and abilities.

Policy P-91: City of Renton residents should be given priority or preference in registering for recreational programs and use of park facilities.

Policy P-92: Non-resident fees should be considered to help offset City expenses for park and recreational services and facilities.